

REMARKS

Claims 1-11, 14, 27-29, 31-34, 36-44 and 46-51 are presently pending in this application. Claims 1-11, 14, 27-29, 31-34 and 36 are withdrawn from consideration and claims 40-44 and 46-51 are being prosecuted. By this Amendment, claims 1-11, 14, 27-29, 31-34, 36, 42 and 50-51 have been canceled, claim 49 has been amended and new claims 52-59 have been added.

On December 27, 1996, the Examiner telephoned Applicants' attorneys and indicated that independent claims 40 and 49 contained allowable subject matter. The Examiner helpfully recommended the amendment of claims 40 and 49 in order to place the claims in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants have rewritten independent claims 40 and 49 as new claims 52 and 59, respectfully, as suggested by the Examiner. In addition, dependent claims 53-58 have been added. New claims 53-58 depend from claim 52 and correspond to pending claims 41, 43-44 and 46-48, respectfully.

Claim 49 has been amended to conform with the previous amendment of claim 40. Claims 42 and 50-51 have been canceled as suggested by the Examiner. Thus, no new matter has been added by any of these amendments.

Claims 40-41, 43-44 and 46-49 are allowable for the reasons presented in the Amendment filed October 2, 1996. Claims 52-59 are allowable as indicated by the Examiner. In view of the

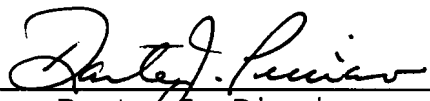
Amendment filed October 2, 1996 and the present Supplemental Amendment, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance. It is, therefore, respectfully requested that claims 40-41, 43-44, 46-49 and 52-59 be allowed.

All objections and rejections having been addressed in the Amendment filed October 2, 1996 and in the present Supplemental Amendment, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Should any matters remain in this application which might be resolve by interview, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned at (202) 466-6300.

Respectfully submitted,

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